

67. A composition according to claim 23, characterized in that the n-alkyl acrylate is n-octyl acrylate.

*D. complete*  
68. A composition according to claim 49, characterized in that the alkyl methacrylate used to form the shell is methyl methacrylate.--

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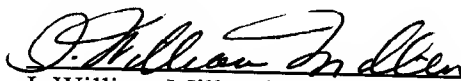
### REMARKS

The purpose of this Supplemental Amendment is to provide a set of claims wherein the grafting agent is diallyl maleate, and wherein there is a lack of covering of the cross-linked nucleus core. Support for diallyl maleate is found, for example in claim 11, and the lack of a covering is established by the language in claim 1 of "not more than 80%" which has been interpreted by the Patent Office as reading on 0%.

Particular patentability is found in the use of diallyl maleate inasmuch as it is a tri-functional grafting agent, not a di-functional grafting agent. Note in particular column 5, lines 8-10 of the cited reference Aoyama et al. 5,360,865 which exemplifies the graft linking monomers as "allyl methacrylate, allyl acrylate, diallylphthalate and the like, all di-functional graft linking agents. It is by the use of the tri-functional graft linking agent diallyl maleate that it is possible to provide an impact additive without a covering layer surrounding the core.

In view of this Supplemental Amendment and the Amendment filed on March 20, 2000, favorable reconsideration is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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